IN THE SPECIFICATION

Please replace the current title with the following:

-- A METHOD AND APPARATUS FOR MODULATING AND

DEMODULATING DATA INTO A VARIABLE LENGTH CODE AND A PROVIDING

MEDIUM FOR IMPLEMENTING THE METHOD--

Please amend the paragraph beginning on page 1, line 5 as follows:

--The present invention is directed to ~~a modulation~~ a data-modulating apparatus, a

data-modulating method, a data-demodulating apparatus, a data-demodulating method, and a

data-providing medium. Particularly, the invention relates to an apparatus and method for

modulating data to transmit the data or record the data on a recording medium, an apparatus and

method for demodulating data that has been modulated, and a medium for use in transmitting or

recording data that has been modulated.--

Please amend the paragraph beginning on page 1, line 12 as follows:

-- ~~Data is modulated to be~~ Modulated data is transmitted via a predetermined

transmission path or recorded on a recoding medium such as, for example, a magnetic disk, an

optical disk or a magneto-optical disk. ~~Known as one of~~ One such data-modulating ~~methods~~

method is block encoding. In the block encoding, a row of data is divided into blocks, or units

each consisting of m x i bits. (hereinafter, the units of data will be referred to as "data words.")

The data words are modulated to code words, each consisting of n x i bits, in accordance with an

appropriate coding rule. Each code word has a fixed length if i is one (1). It has a variable

length if the value of i can be selected from a plurality of values ranging from 1 to imax (the

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greatest value for i) is selected for i. The code generated by the block encoding is a variable-

length code (d, k; m, n; r).--

Please amend the paragraph beginning on page 2, line 6 as follows:

--To record variable-length codes generated as described above, on a compact

disk, a mini-disk or the like, NRZI (NonReturn to Zero Inverted) modulation may be performed

on the variable-length codes. In the NRZI modulation, the variable-length code is inverted at

each one (1) and not inverted at each zero (0). The variable-length codes subjected to the NRZI

modulation (hereinafter referred to as "level codes " are recorded on the disk.--

Please amend the last paragraph on page 5 as follows:

-- To record data on a recording medium or transmit data in a specific way, the

data is modulated into codes that can be recorded on the medium or transmitted in that specific

way. The modulated codes may contain a direct-current component. If so, various error signals,

such as the tracking error signal for the servo control in a disk drive are likely to change or

contain jitter. Therefore, the modulated codes should not better contain a direct-current

component.--

Please amend the paragraph beginning on page 15, line 16 as follows:

-- The data-demodulating apparatus according to the invention comprises a sync signal

detecting means (e.g.. SYNC/Sync ID identification section 33 of FIG. 3) that is designed to

detect a sync signal from the train of codes after detecting the minimum run. This sync signal has

a pattern that breaks the maximum run.--

Please amend the abstract on page 41 as follows:

-- <u>A method and apparatus for modulating data modulates data having a length of m-bits to a variable length code having a basic code length of n-bits.</u> A SYNC but insertion section ~~14~~ adds a sync signal to a train of codes, after ~~adding~~ a minimum run~~, said.~~ The sync signal ~~having~~ <u>has</u> a pattern that breaks a maximum run. ~~It is thereby possible to provide a reliable sync signal pattern.~~

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